

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. - 17. (Cancelled)

18. (Currently Amended) ~~The use~~ **A method for treating or preventing inflammatory diseases which comprises administering an effective amount** of a reducing-sugar monomer, whose hydroxyl function is substituted by an alkoxy radical at C₂-C₄₀, ~~as a medicament to a patient in need thereof.~~

19. (Currently Amended) ~~The use~~ **The method** according to claim 18, wherein, in the reducing-sugar monomer, the substituted hydroxyl function is the anomeric hydroxyl function.

20. (Currently Amended) ~~The use~~ **The method** according to claim 18, wherein the alkoxy radical comprises from 5 to 12 carbon atoms.

21. (Currently Amended) ~~The use~~ **The method** of claim 18, wherein the reducing sugar is selected from the group comprised of rhamnose, fucose and glucose.

22. (Cancelled)

23. (Currently Amended) ~~The use~~ **The method** according to claim 18, wherein the ~~medicament is intended for the prevention or treatment~~ **inflammatory disease is selected from the group consisting** of allergic, inflammatory or immune reactions ~~or~~ **and** pathologies of the skin and/or mucous membranes.

24. (Currently Amended) ~~The use~~ **The method** according claim 18, wherein the ~~medicament is intended to inhibit the~~ **inflammatory disease is due to an** immune response related to inflammatory stress.

25. (Currently Amended) ~~The use~~ The method according claim 18, wherein the medicament ~~is intended to inhibit the~~ inflammatory disease is related to the activation of leucocytes, the secretion of keratinocytic cytokines, the keratinocytic hyperplasia phenomenon, antigen processing by the dendritic cells of the skin, the maturation of antigen-presenting cells and the recognition phenomenon between lymphocytes and antigen-presenting cells.

26. (Currently Amended) ~~The use~~ The method according claim 18, wherein the medicament ~~is intended for the prevention or treatment of diseases chosen from the group comprised~~ inflammatory disease is selected from the group consisting of atopic and/or contact eczema, inflammatory dermatoses, irritant dermatitis, acne, autoimmune diseases such as psoriasis, photo-immunosuppression, vitiligo, pityriasis, sclerodermas, rheumatoid arthritis, Crohn's disease and graft rejection.

27. (Currently Amended) ~~The use according to claim 18, wherein the medicament is intended~~ A method for the prevention and/or and treatment of age-related chronic inflammatory problems and their consequences which comprises administering an effective amount of a reducing-sugar monomer, whose hydroxyl function is substituted by a C₂₀-C₄₀ alkoxy radical, to a patient in need thereof.

28. (Currently Amended) ~~The use~~ The method according to claim 27, wherein the medicament ~~is intended for the prevention or treatment of diseases chosen from the group comprised~~ age-related chronic inflammatory problem is selected from the group consisting of anaphylactic sensitivities, pigmentary anomalies of the skin, dermal hypervascularity and inflammatory fissuring.

29. (Currently Amended) ~~The use according to claim 18, wherein the medicament is intended to reduce~~ A method of reducing the allergenic and/or irritant character of a composition or perfume which comprises administering an effective amount of a reducing-

sugar monomer, whose hydroxyl function is substituted by a C₂₀-C₄₀ alkoxy radical, to a patient in need thereof.

30. (Currently Amended) ~~The use~~ **The method** according to claim 18, wherein the medicament contains from 0.001% to 50% by weight of the aforementioned reducing-sugar monomer.

31. (Previously Presented) A method for the cosmetic treatment of skin and/or mucous membranes that are sensitive, irritated, intolerant, of an allergic tendency, aged, exhibiting danger signs, exhibiting a disorder of the cutaneous barrier, exhibiting cutaneous redness or exhibiting a non-pathological immunological imbalance related to intrinsic, extrinsic or hormonal aging, wherein it consists of applying to the skin and/or the mucous membranes a composition comprised of at least one reducing-sugar monomer whose hydroxyl function, is substituted by an alkoxy radical at C₂-C₄₀.

32. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 30 ~~30~~ **31**, wherein the hydroxyl function, which is substituted by a C₂-C₄₀ alkoxy radical, is the anomeric hydroxyl function.

33. (Currently Amended) ~~A cosmetic treatment~~ **The** method according to claim 31, wherein the reducing sugar is chosen from the group comprised of rhamnose, fucose and glucose.

34. (Currently Amended) ~~A cosmetic treatment~~ **The** method according to claim 31, wherein the alkoxy radical comprises from 5 to 12 carbon atoms.

35. (Previously presented) A cosmetic treatment method to slow the natural aging of the skin and/or to prevent the accelerated aging of skin subjected to external attacks, in particular to prevent photo-induced aging of the skin, wherein it consists of applying to the skin a

composition comprised of at least one reducing-sugar monomer whose hydroxyl function, is substituted by an alkoxy radical at C₂-C₄₀.

36. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 32 ~~35~~, wherein the hydroxyl function, which is substituted by a ~~C2-C40~~ C₂-C₄₀ alkoxy radical, is the anomeric hydroxyl function.

37. (New) The method according to claim 27, wherein the medicament contains from 0.001% to 50% by weight of the aforementioned reducing-sugar monomer.

38. (New) The method according to claim 29, wherein the medicament contains from 0.001% to 50% by weight of the aforementioned reducing-sugar monomer.

39. (New) The method according to claim 35, wherein the reducing sugar is chosen from the group comprised of rhamnose, fucose and glucose.

40. (New) The method according to claim 35, wherein the alkoxy radical comprises from 5 to 12 carbon atoms.